

that the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) ever, ever injected one ounce of politics in tough decisions which an individual could have done, and he never did it, and neither did the members of that committee on either side of the aisle. They hung together with what I call our Capitol family. We appreciate that. I will never forget it. We also hated to lose the gentleman, but we like the gentleman from Connecticut, too.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would just like to add that in the presence of a great leader like the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) and, as he indicated, also a former President of the Maryland legislative Senate, what an outstanding job that he has done in this committee. It is always great when one is able to stand on the shoulders of those who came before you, and the work that he has done for this committee has set a very important and exemplary example of how we should conduct ourselves here on the floor and in the committee. On behalf of all of those committee members and the committee staff who especially appreciate the gentleman's commitment to the one-third/two-thirds ratio, we extend our great thanks, love and devotion. In a word, the gentleman is a class act, as is the chairman, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY), and as we continue this love fest here on the floor of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers on our side, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, Chairman NEY and Ranking Member LARSON, I am pleased to offer my support today in favor of H. Res. 148 to fund committees of the House of Representatives during the 108th Congress.

As the Committee on House Administration moves forward with its mission of overseeing the functions of the House, I want to make sure that as opportunities arise for companies to do business with the House, African American, Women and other minority-owned firms are included in the awarding of contracts. With the construction of the Visitors Center offering up to \$100 million in contracts for Sequence 1, and \$125 million in contracts to be awarded for Sequence 2, it is imperative that African American, Women and minority owned businesses have as much opportunity to submit and win bids as do majority-owned firms. Along these lines, I sent a letter to the Architect of the Capitol Alan Hantman on April 16 stating my interest in being informed regarding the status of the House's outreach efforts to include eligible women and minority-owned firms in ongoing construction projects.

As of 2001, we know that according to the Small Business Administration, 259,143 contracts totaling \$15.6 billion were awarded to small disadvantaged firms nationwide. Overall, small disadvantaged businesses won 7.12 percent of contracts awarded across the country in 2001 according to the Congressional Research Service. Given this information, we

must do all we can to ensure that minority-owned firms, which frequently come under the heading of small disadvantaged businesses are able to bid on and win contracts awarded by the House. I have a keen interest in this matter, given that my home State of California is one of four states across the country accounting for 35 percent of all businesses owned by African Americans as documented by the U.S. Census Bureau. Right here, the District of Columbia is home to the nation's highest percentage of African American-owned firms at 24 percent, yet only 2.5 percent of the District's business receipts come from these companies as reported by the U.S. Census. Further, the State of Maryland ranks second with 12 percent of the country's African American-owned businesses which generate 1.4 percent of Maryland's business tax receipts. It is clear from these numbers that as Members of the House, we can do more to assure African American, Women and other minority-owned firms greater access to contracts under our jurisdiction.

I wholeheartedly support the bipartisan nature of the funding resolution put forth by this committee, and I applaud the Chairman and Ranking Member as they continue to make efforts to make contracting opportunities controlled by the House more available to minority business owners.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the previous question is ordered on the resolution, as amended.

The resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on House Resolution 148.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

#### PROVIDING AMOUNTS FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY IN THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH CONGRESS

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of today, I call up the resolution (H. Res. 110) providing amounts for the expenses of the Committee on Homeland Security in the One Hundred Eighth Congress, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the resolution is considered read for amendment.

The text of House Resolution 110 is as follows:

*Resolved,*

H. RES. 110

#### SECTION 1. AMOUNTS FOR COMMITTEE EXPENSES.

For the expenses of the Committee on Homeland Security (hereafter in this resolution referred to as the "Committee"), including the expenses of all staff salaries, there shall be paid, out of the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives for committee salaries and expenses, not more than \$11,028,787 for the One Hundred Eighth Congress.

#### SEC. 2. SESSION LIMITATIONS.

Of the amount specified in section 1—

(1) not more than \$5,657,656 shall be available for expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2003, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 2004; and

(2) not more than \$5,371,131 shall be available for expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2004, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 2005.

#### SEC. 3. VOUCHERS.

Payments under this resolution shall be made on vouchers authorized by the Committee, signed by the Chairman of the Committee, and approved in the manner directed by the Committee on House Administration.

#### SEC. 4. REGULATIONS.

Amounts made available under this resolution shall be expended in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Committee on House Administration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The amendment printed in the resolution is adopted.

The text of House Resolution 110, as amended, is as follows:

*Resolved,*

#### SECTION 1. EXPENSES FOR THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY FOR THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH CONGRESS.

With respect to the One Hundred Eighth Congress, there shall be paid out of the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives, in accordance with this primary expense resolution, not more than \$10,952,787 for the expenses (including the expenses of all staff salaries) of the Select Committee on Homeland Security.

#### SEC. 2. FIRST SESSION LIMITATION.

Of the amount provided for in section 1, not more than \$5,366,866 shall be available for expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2003, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 2004.

#### SEC. 3. SECOND SESSION LIMITATION.

Of the amount provided for in section 1, not more than \$5,585,921 shall be available for expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2004, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 2005.

#### SEC. 4. VOUCHERS.

Payments under this resolution shall be made on vouchers authorized by the Select Committee on Homeland Security, signed by the chairman of such Committee, and approved in the manner directed by the Committee on House Administration.

#### SEC. 5. REGULATIONS.

Amounts made available under this resolution shall be expended in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Committee on House Administration.

#### SEC. 6. ADJUSTMENT AUTHORITY.

The Committee on House Administration shall have authority to make adjustments in the amount under section 1, if necessary to comply with an order of the President issued under section 254 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or to conform to any reduction in appropriations for the purposes of such section 1.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) and the